



► RESTAURANT WEEKS.....1



► 35TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT.....2



► COLUMBIA'S LAKEFRONT SUMMER CONCERTS.....3

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Community *notes*

Howard County Restaurant Weeks

Monday, July 23 - August 6

Howard County Restaurant Weeks is a 15 day bi-annual celebration of the local culinary scene in Howard County! Part of a national movement, restaurant weeks debuted here in 2008 in an effort to encourage visitors and residents to experience the wonderful culinary talent in Central Maryland.

Howard County Restaurant Weeks is celebrating 10 years of Restaurant Weeks. To mark the occasion, Visit Howard County is giving away a weekend getaway package to a few HoCo Restaurant Weeks diners. To enter, use the hashtag #HoCoRestaurantWeeks during the two weeks with a picture of your favorite meals. For more information about the contest, [click here](#).

For more information on participating restaurants, visit [Visit Howard County's website](#).

Mosquito Prevention Around Your Home

With the recent rainy weather, we should be cautious about standing water around our homes as the water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Ensure that any vessel that is outside is emptied of standing water. Once mosquito eggs have been introduced to water, they can live up to 8 months (even if the vessel becomes dry later). Let's protect ourselves and our environment by following some [key tips](#).

Greetings

Here's hoping that the sun will shine some time this weekend and you will have the opportunity to enjoy some of the happenings around the county.

Mary Kay

Magic Under Glass the Musical

The Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts, under the direction of Toby Orenstein, presents a new production of *Magic Under Glass*. This production, set to rock music, explores the story of Nimira during a time of unrest between two rival kingdoms.



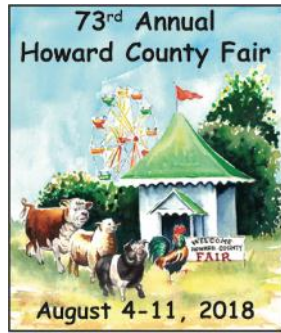
All performances of this exciting musical take place at the Peter and Elizabeth Horowitz Center for the Performing Arts on the campus of Howard Community College from Thursday, August 2

through Saturday, August 4. Evening performances begin at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday's matinee begins at 2 p.m.

Click [here](#) for more information and to purchase your tickets today!

Howard County Fair

Celebrate summer at the Howard County Fair from Saturday, August 4 through August 11, 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Ride amusement rides, visit agricultural and livestock exhibits, watch the parade, and purchase locally made arts and crafts. This week is fun for the whole family. Grab some deep fried Oreos and catch a ride on the Ferris wheel or learn how to square dance. Don't forget the pie eating contest, Senior Day, 4-H Demonstrations, bands, fashions and more. Visit the [Fair's website](#) for the full guide, details about the getting there and more.



National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.



This year's celebrations take place on Tuesday, August 7. Visit HCPD'S [event listing](#) for more details about gatherings in your community. Interested in hosting a party in your neighborhood? Register [here](#).

Vibrance Exhibit

Vibrance is an exhibit featuring work from four artists – Ilene Gold, Robert Hofherr, Joyce Ritter, and Mary Jo Tydlacka – working in a variety of media, from painting to art quilts to collage. Each artist incorporates bright color and elements of abstraction in their art, creating vivid works that are often inspired by nature.

This exhibit is open until August 17 at the Howard County Arts Council building. Gallery Hours: Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Sat 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Sun 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Click [here](#) for more information.

Upcoming Programs at Robinson Nature Center

Howard County's Robinson Nature Center will host a series of family friendly programs over the next few weeks. Enjoy evening walks, intergalactic education for young ones, a river picnic with games and more. View all of your options on the [Robinson Nature Center's website](#) and sign up today for outdoor fun close to home.

All State Community Band In Concert

The Maryland All-State Community Band performs its 6th annual concert on July 29, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at River Hill High School. Admission is free and no tickets are required.

The Maryland All-State Community Band is composed of musicians from all over the state, selected annually, and will be directed by Dr. Harlan Parker, conductor at the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University and Coordinator of the Peabody Music Education Division.

The program consists of some of the finest in band literature including Colas Breugnon Overture by Dimitri Kabalevsky; the First Suite in E Flat for Military Band by Gustav Holst; El Camino Real by Alfred Reed; Variations on America by Charles Ives; and Symphony NO. 3 by Vittorio Giannini. For more information on future concerts, visit this [website](#).

Family Fun at HoCo Parks

Sunset Serenades/Movie Night

Wednesday evenings through August 17, 7:00 p.m.
Centennial Park South, 10000 Route 108, Ellicott City
Enjoy this popular summer concert and movie night series. The following groups and movies are scheduled to appear in August:
August 1 – Bad Influence (Blues)
August 8 – Columbia Big Band (Jazz & Swing)
August 17 – The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG-13) Starts: 7:45 p.m.

The series is free. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, a picnic supper, rent a canoe or paddleboat and enjoy music in the park. Refreshments will be available for sale during Sunset Serenades. Please bring non-perishable food items for the Howard County Food Bank when you attend the concerts.

Traveling Bands

Various dates/locations through August 11.
Enjoy these free concerts. The following groups are scheduled to appear in August:
Tuesday, August 7, 7:00 p.m. – Rhythm Method (Classic R&B, Funk)
National Night Out at North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel
Saturday, August 11, 10:00 a.m. – Barry Louis Polisar (Kids Concert)
The Chrysalis, Symphony Woods at Merriweather Park, 10475 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia

Visit the [HCRP website](#) for the complete summer entertainment series schedule and more details.

The Columbia Lakefront Summer Festival

Free entertainment nearly every day!

The Columbia Lakefront Summer Festival is sponsored by Columbia Association and held on the lawn at the Downtown Columbia Lakefront, located near Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia. Admission is free. No glass containers or alcoholic beverages are permitted on the premises.

View the Lakefront Summer Festival Calendar link below for event details including artist websites and movie descriptions. You'll also be able to easily add events to your calendar.

[Lakefront Summer Festival Schedule](#)

Note: The showing of Marvel's "Black Panther" — originally scheduled for June 22 — will now be held on Friday, August 3. The movie originally scheduled for August 3 ("Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation") will not be rescheduled for this year's festival.

[Lakefront Summer Festival Calendar](#) [Wednesday Lunchtime Concert Schedule](#)

Buy Fresh, Buy Local

Summer is the best time for Maryland's Farmers' Markets.



You can purchase seasonal fruits, vegetables, meat, baked goods and more from local producers. In addition, many of the local markets offer hand-crafted clothing, artwork, herbs, flowers and many lovely items.

Visit the Maryland Department of Agriculture's [webpage](#) to find a market near you at home or as you travel around the state.

Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week

As you prepare for the end of summer, don't forget about Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week, Sunday, August 12 through Saturday, August 18.

Qualifying apparel and footwear priced \$100 or less, per item, are exempt from the 6% state sales tax. In addition, the first \$40 of a backpack or bookbag purchase is also tax-free. All other accessory items are not included.

Below are resources from the Office of the Comptroller which may help as you are planning your shopping:

[List of Exempt and Taxable Items](#)
[Tax Free Week FAQ](#)

Upcoming Events & Reminders

Cooking Class For Kids!

Saturday, July 28 • 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Maggiano's Little Italy

Calling all Junior Chefs! Join Chef Bruce for a lesson on how to prepare Maggiano's famous meatballs. Attendees will have the opportunity to decorate their own chef hats, watch a cooking demonstration, get hands on experience, and more. Visit this [page](#) for more information and to register. Bon Appétit!

Coffee With A Cop

Saturday, August 4 • 10:00 a.m.

Little French Market, Ellicott City

The Coffee with a Cop program offers the community an opportunity to meet face-to-face with police personnel in a neutral environment to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know officers.

Pride at Hysteria Brewing

Hysteria Brewing is proudly hosing their first Pride event!

Beer is for everyone. Celebrate the surrounding LGBTQ+ and ally community with craft beer and family fun on Saturday, August 11, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at Hysteria Brewing. \$5 pints for those that attend. Visit the event [page](#) for updates.

The Federal Brass Concert

Thursday, August 16 • 7:00 p.m.

Glen Mar Church

The Federal Brass brings a unique and innovative approach to chamber music, focusing on new and original music of various genres and styles. For more information, visit Glen Mar Church's [website](#) or call 410-465-4995 ext. 209.



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